

## Christian Doctrine

### The Holy Spirit (Part 3)

#### The Holy Spirit's Role in Salvation

#### *The Work of the Holy Spirit in Salvation*

The Holy Spirit plays a significant part in the work of salvation. Scripture reveals works done by the Holy Spirit that lead a person to salvation, as well as works He accomplishes the moment a person gets saved.

#### *Key Works Leading to Salvation*

- He convicts. This is the Holy Spirit's work of convincing a person of their need for Christ. John 16:8-11 points out that the Holy Spirit convicts of three things: sin (the fact a person is guilty before God), righteousness (the fact that righteousness is provided through Christ) and judgment (the fact condemnation awaits those who reject Christ).
- He calls. Scripture gives a general "call", or invitation, for all people to accept the gospel (John 7:37), but Scripture also describes what is often referred to as an "effective calling" to people whom God is drawing to Himself for salvation. This is a work in which the Holy Spirit "opens the eyes" of people to the truth and points them to Christ (Rom. 8:30; Acts 16:14; II Thess. 2:13-14).

#### *Key Works at the Moment of Salvation*

- He regenerates. The Holy Spirit gives new, spiritual life to those who believe (John 1:3; 3:5; Titus 3:5).
- He indwells. This refers to the Holy Spirit's presence which indwells each believer at the moment they are saved. This is described as a gift which Christ had promised to give after His ascension (John 7:37-39; 14:17; Acts 2:38).
  - This is true of all believers (Rom. 5:5; 8:9; II Cor. 5:5).
  - This is a permanent indwelling (John 14:16).
- He baptizes. This is the act of joining a believer to the Body of Christ and identifying them with Christ's death, burial and resurrection (I Cor. 12:13; Rom. 6:3-4; Eph. 4:5).
  - This is a one-time act (I Cor. 12:13).
  - This is a work that God accomplishes at salvation, not something believers need to seek.
- He seals. The Holy Spirit is our guarantee that all God has promised us will be fulfilled (II Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13; 4:30).

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